

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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O P 262050Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4708
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2855

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PEPER, PINS, DR
SUBJECT: EL CARIBE ACCUSES USG OF DIRECT INTERFERENCE IN
DELIBERATIONS OF JCE DURING VOTE COUNT; CALLS ON GODR TO TAKE
MATTER TO OAS

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF TODAY'S EL CARIBE'S EDITORIAL.
PLEASE NOTE THE ACCUSATION OF EMBASSY INTERVENTION "WITH THE
APPARENT PURPOSE OF MEDIATING A DISPUTE BETWEEN MILITANTS
OF DIFFERENT PARTIES " (PARA 7 ONWARD). THE CHARGE HAS NOT
APPEARED IN NEWS COLUMNS OF CARIBE OR ANY OTHER PAPER. LIKE
THE HOT RUMOR WEDNESDAY THAT PENA GOMEZ WAS IN HIDING IN
AMBASSADOR YOST'S RESIDENCE ("BECAUSE OF THE GOOD FOOD")
WHICH WAS BROADCAST ON NEIT NIVAR'S NATION WIDE NET OF COMMERCIAL
RADIOS, IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHAT THE
"DISINFORMERS" DO WITH THIS YARN.

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2. TEXT: BEGIN QUOTE: OAS MEETING.

1) CERTAIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS AT THE HEAD
OF WHICH ARE FOUND THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES AND
VENEZUELA HAVE THREATENED TO REQUEST A MEETING OF THE
OAS WITH THE PURPOSE OF ANALYZING AND, POSSIBLY, CONDEMNING
THE INTERNAL POLICY OF THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT.

2) THE THREAT OF THOSE GOVERNMENTS ORIGINATES IN SUSPICIONS THAT THE POPULAR WILL, FREELY AND SOVEREIGNLY EXPRESSED IN THE GENERAL ELECTIONS, WOULD NOT BE RESPECTED.

3) THAT SUSPICION, WHICH THE DOMINICAN CHIEF OF STATE, DR. JOAQUIN BALAGUER, HAS CHARACTERIZED AS "INJURIOUS" IS BASED ON THE ILLEGAL INTERVENTION IN THE VOTE COUNT BY THE ARMED FORCES THE MORNING OF MAY 17TH.

4) EL CARIBE CONSIDERS THAT INTERVENTION A VERY GRAVE EVENT BUT IT ALSO CONSIDERS THAT THIS SAME ELECTORAL PROCESS SAW ITSELF AFFECTED BY A SERIES OF ANOMALIES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT OR DENOUNCED BY ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.

5) THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT EL CARIBE BELIEVES IN THE RIGHT TO ASSUME FUNCTIONS SUCH AS NAMING THE WINNING CANDIDATES, WHICH LIES ONLY WITH THE JCE.

6) WE BELIEVE, NEVERTHELESS, THAT THE FORM IN WHICH VENEZUELA AND THE US EXPRESSED THEIR "PRE-OCCUPATION" WITH THE INTERRUPTION OF THE VOTE COUNT REACHED THE EXTREME OF AN AUDACIOUS INTERVENTION INTO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF A SOVEREIGN STATE (I.E., THE DOMREP).

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7) THE US COMMITTED THE EXCESS OF SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE OF ITS EMBASSY TO THE JCE IN THIS CAPITAL IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON OF MAY 19 WITH THE APPARENT PURPOSE OF MEDIATING A DISPUTE BETWEEN MILITANTS OF DIFFERENT PARTIES.

8) THE OPINION OF EL CARIBE, IS, IN CONSEQUENCE, THAT UPON THE VERGE OF THE ELECTORAL RESULTS AND NO MATTER WHO WINS THEM, THE DOMINICAN STATE SHOULD IMMEDIATELY REQUEST THE MEETING OF THE OAS TO CLARIFY WITH WHICH RIGHT AND IN WHICH STANDARDS OF ASSISTANCE FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS INTERVENE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

9) SUCH CLARIFICATION IS NECESSARY IN VIRTUE OF THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND MILITARY DEPENDENCE OF OUR COUNTRY.
10. PROFOUND GEOGRAPHICAL AND, ABOVE, ALL HISTORICAL DETERMINANTS BIND US TO THAT DEPENDENCY, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE SHOULD BE A PLAYTHING OF THE INTERESTS OF FRIENDLY OR HOSTILE NATIONS.

11) THE OAS MEETING WHICH, IN OUR OPINION, THE

DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD REQUEST WOULD NOT HAVE
ANYTHING TO DO WITH PARTISAN POLITICS NOR THE RESULT
OF THE ELECTIONS OF MAY 16. THE RESULT OF THAT
ELECTION IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ONLY THE JCE AND IT
IS THE DUTY OF ALL DOMINICANS-GOVERNORS AND GOVERNED-
TO RESPECT IT.

12) THE MEETING OF WHICH WE ARE SPEAKING WOULD BE
TO DELINEATE THE LIMITS OF FOREIGN BEHAVIOR IN OUR COUNTRY.

13) EL CARIBE HAS BEEN AND, UP TO A CERTAIN POINT,
STILL IS A DEFENDER OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OF THE US
PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER IN SPITE OF KNOWING THAT THAT POLICY
HAS ASSUMED, IN PRACTICE, A SELECTIVE CHARACTER THAT STRIPS
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IT OF MORAL AUTHORITY. BE THAT AS IT MAY, WE THINK THAT,
IN A CONVULSIVE AND VIOLENT WORLD, A WEAK AND SELECTIVE
DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS, PERHAPS, BETTER THAN NO DEFENSE
AT ALL.

14) BUT WE DO NOT SEE HOW THAT ERRATIC POLICY CAN BE
INVOKED TO LAUNCH A MASSIVE EFFORT DESTINED TO CONTROL OUR
FUTURE FROM THE DESK OF A MINISTER OF A DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN RELATIONS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.

15.) WE ARE AND HAVE BEEN DEFENDERS OF CONSTITUTIONALITY.
WE BELIEVE, IN CONSEQUENCE, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY
CORRESPONDS IN FULL RIGHT TO THOSE WHOM THE JCE DESIGNATES AS
LEGITIMATE WINNERS OF THE ELECTIONS OF MAY 16.) THAT BELIEF,
NEVERTHELESS, WOULD NOT HAVE ANY
MEANING IF THE DECISION OF THE VICTOR OF THE ELECTIONS
WERE THE HANDS OF JIMMY CARTER OR CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ
INSTEAD OF THE HANDS OF THE JCE. END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE CONTACT WITH
JCE BEFORE AND SINCE THE ELECTION AND NECESSARILY SO.
HOWEVER, EMBASSY HAS DECIDED NOT TO DIGNIFY THIS NONSENSE
IN EL CARIBE WITH A COMMENT IN THE EVENT OF INQUIRIES REGARDING
EDITORIAL.
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